

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 5, 7, 10, 11, 25, and 26 as set forth below. Please cancel claims 8, 9, 23 and 24 without prejudice. Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as set forth below in the listing of claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Complete Listing of the Claims**

Claims 1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide characterized as:

- (a) specifically interacting with a chK1 protein;
- (b) having SQ/TQ motifs,
- (c) having an isoelectric point of about 4.5;
- (d) having at least one nuclear localization signal; and
- (e) having ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) a polynucleotide of (a), wherein T can be U;
  - (c) a polynucleotide complementary to (a) or (b);
  - (d) a polynucleotide having a the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1;
- and
- (e) degenerate variants of (a), (b), (c) or (d).

Claims 8-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide, wherein said polynucleotide comprises:

- (a) a polynucleotide having a the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5; or
- (b) a polynucleotide complementary to (a).

11. (Currently Amended) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim [[8]]7.

12. (Previously Presented) The expression vector of claim 11, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

13. (Previously Presented) The expression vector of claim 11, wherein the vector is a plasmid vector.

14. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector of claim 11.

15. (Original) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the steps of:

- (a) culturing a host cell of claim 14 under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and
- (b) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.

Claims 16-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 7, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

26. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 9, wherein the polynucleotide consists of:

- a polynucleotide having a the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or
- a polynucleotide as set forth in nucleic acid residues 1-331, 799-903, 1232-1543, 2147-2486 or 2964-4756 of SEQ ID NO:3.